

NEWS RELEASE

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Child Car Safety Seats Recalled

BISMARCK, N.D. – Several child car safety seats widely distributed and used in North Dakota have been recalled, according to Dawn Mayer, coordinator of the North Dakota Department of Health's Child Passenger Safety Program. The car seats are manufactured by Graco Children's Products and Dorel Juvenile Group.

"In vehicle crashes, these car seats may not protect the children riding in them," Mayer said. "It's important that parents check their car seats to see if they are included in this recall and to take the recommended steps to keep their children safe."

The Graco recall is for the ComfortSport 5-point harness convertible car seat. According to Graco, the lower anchorage belt may have been misrouted during the assembly process. On the affected seats, the lower anchorage belt was misrouted behind the shoulder portion of the harness instead of under the crotch portion. This misrouting could affect the performance of a car seat when used rear-facing with the LATCH system.

The recall includes ComfortSport car seats manufactured from Jan. 2, 2007, through July 31, 2007, with the following model numbers: 8629TWL, 8631DFT, 8631DRA, 8632PSO, 8635TAC, 8639COS, 8C00BLG, 8C00DMN, 8C00GRP, 8C00LNW, 8C00MID, 8C00TMB, 8C01SVD, 8C01WTN, 8C02MGI, 8C02MRC, 8C03HAL, 8C03WCF, 8C04FRR, 8433FOF, 8630MTR.

Owners of the Graco ComfortSport should not use the seat rear-facing with the LATCH system until the lower anchorage belt routing has been inspected and corrected. The vehicle seat belt can be used instead of LATCH. Instructions for correct routing of the lower anchorage belt can be obtained from Graco by calling 800.345.4109 or by visiting www.gracobaby.com.

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Dorel Juvenile Group has issued a recall for Cosco, Eddie Bauer, Safety 1st and Alpha brand convertible car seats made from November 2003 through December 2005. The manufacturer has determined there is a potential for the harness adjustment strap to loosen during use. A loose harness would increase the risk of injury to a child in a crash.

The following seats are included in the Dorel recall:

- Cosco brand Alpha Omega and Alpha Omega Elite, with model numbers 22150, 22155, 22180, 22269
- Eddie Bauer brand 3-in-1, Deluxe 3-in-1 and Deluxe Convertible, with model numbers 22740, 22750, 22755, 22756, 22757, 22770
- Safety 1st brand Alpha Elite, Alpha Omega, Alpha Omega Elite, Alpha Sport, Intera and Enspira, with model numbers 22151, 22450, 22451, 22452, 22453, 22455, 22460, 22480, 22481

Consumers who have the affected car seats should contact Dorel at 800.219.0509 or visit www.djgusa.com for a free repair kit to replace the harness adjustment strap. Dorel encourages parents to check for harness slippage by tightening the harness and then pulling the harness straps without pressing or lifting the harness adjustment lever. If movement occurs, the harness is experiencing slippage and use of a different car seat is recommended until the repair kit has been installed.

"These recalls point to how important it is for consumers to register their car seats, either online or by sending in registration cards that come with all new car seats," Mayer said. "If their seats are registered, they will receive notice from the manufacturer of any recalls or safety notices affecting those products."

For more information about car seats or to check if a safety seat has been recalled, consumers may contact the North Dakota Department of Health at 800.472.2286 (press 1). They must have the manufacturer name, model number and date of manufacturer to check for recalls. This information is usually located on a sticker on the back or side of the car seat.

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